

*on 6/11/61*

BOROUGH OF WESTON-SUPER-MARE

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*Sam.*

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1961

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Including the  
REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
AND THE METEOROLOGICAL REPORT



B O R O U G H   O F   W E S T O N - S U P E R - M A R E

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Including the  
REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
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B O R O U G H   O F   W E S T O N - S U P E R - M A R E

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(January to May 1961)

Chairman

COUNCILLOR LT.-COL. G.C.G. GREY, O.B.E., C.C.

Vice-Chairman

ALDERMAN H. DODGSON, C.A.

ALDERMAN G.W. COUCH	ALDERMAN A.J. HEYBYRNE
ALDERMAN D.H. MILLER-BARSTOW, M.A.	COUNCILLOR F.A. BOYD
COUNCILLOR W.B. GREENWOOD	COUNCILLOR N.W. HASKINS
COUNCILLOR CAPT. J.L. TREVITT	COUNCILLOR G.F. WADHAM

(May to December 1961)

Chairman

ALDERMAN LT.-COL. G.C.G. GREY, O.B.E., C.C.

Vice-Chairman

COUNCILLOR H.S. ALLEN

COUNCILLOR F.A. BOYD	COUNCILLOR N.W. HASKINS
COUNCILLOR R. IVENS	COUNCILLOR MRS. E.D. NICHOLLS
COUNCILLOR CAPT. J.L. TREVITT	COUNCILLOR G.F. WADHAM
COUNCIL W.E. WOODMAN	COUNCILLOR H.A.E. SMITH

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Medical Officer of Health	...	...	D. McGowan
Chief Public Health Inspector	...	...	G.P. Lawrence
Public Health Inspectors	...	...	S. Joules
			E. Knowles
			J. Richards
Abattoir Superintendent and			
Public Health Inspector	...	...	W.W. White
Clerical Staff	...	...	5



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

THE TOWN HALL,

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of  
The Borough of Weston-super-Mare.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health of the Borough and the work of the Public Health Department in 1961.

Generally speaking, the statistical section shows favourable comparison with figures for the rest of the country, but there is one point which I would like to mention concerning the section dealing with causes of death. The number of deaths of residents from road accidents totalled 13 in 1961, this being 10 more than in 1960 and more than double the average for the previous five years (average for 1956 - 60 = 6 per year).

During the year there were two outbreaks of food-poisoning in the town, which, apart from the fact that they caused a great deal of suffering and inconvenience to those affected, were notable for the fact that in both instances, the origin of infection was from an animal source, and not, like so many other outbreaks of food infection, from a human carrier. The difficulties involved in trying to trace the source of such an infection are shown in the description of one of the outbreaks and it would be of great help if some system of identification could be evolved so that, after slaughter, a carcass could be traced back to the farm from which it originally came.

Early in 1962, the Minister of Health issued his plan for the building of new hospitals in the country during the next ten years. Unfortunately, at present he does not foresee the creation of a new district general hospital in this area until after 1970 - 71 but as he says "the programmes set out in this Paper shall be reviewed and carried forward annually, so that at all times they represent an up-to-date forecast of the work to be started in the next ten years ahead". It is to be hoped therefore that the urgent need for better hospital facilities in this area will be realised so that the date of commencement of building can be brought forward.

Regarding the environmental services, work on the main drainage scheme goes on satisfactorily and in housing, the Council are mainly concerned at present with the building of houses connected with the new industrial estate and the building of flats for old people. Mr. Lawrence in his report, gives an account of the work which the Public Health Inspectors carried out during the year.

Finally, I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee, and of other Committees with which the Health Department is associated and the Officers and staff of other Departments for their assistance and co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

D. McGowan,

Medical Officer of Health.

# S U M M A R Y   O F   S T A T I S T I C S

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (including foreshore) ... 7,006 acres  
 Population - Registrar-General's estimate for  
 mid-1961 ... 42,450

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1961.

<u>Live Births</u>	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ...	272	251	523
Illegitimate ...	14	18	32
	<u>286</u>	<u>269</u>	<u>555</u>

Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 population) = 13.1

Corrected Birth Rate (Comparability Factor 1.13) = 14.8

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births = 5.8%

<u>Stillbirths</u>	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ...	6	7	13
Illegitimate ...	-	-	-
	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>13</u>

Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 live and stillbirths) = 22.9

Total live and stillbirths ... 568

<u>Infant Deaths</u> (Deaths under 1 year)	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ...	6	5	11
Illegitimate ...	1	-	1
	<u>7</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>12</u>

### Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births = 21.6

Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births = 19.8

Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births = 31.3

Neonatal Mortality Rate (Deaths under 4 weeks  
 per 1,000 total live births) = 16.2

Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (Deaths under  
 1 week per 1,000 live births) = 12.6

Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and Deaths  
 under 1 week per 1,000 live and still  
 births) = 35.2



Maternal Deaths = Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live and stillbirths) = Nil

<u>Deaths</u>	Male	Female	Total
	307	380	687

Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 population) = 16.2

Corrected Death Rate (Comparability Factor 0.71) = 11.7

V I T A L   S T A T I S T I C S

BIRTHS

The Registrar-General gives the corrected number of live births in the town as 555 (286 boys and 269 girls), this being 55 less than in 1960. Of these births, 32 were illegitimate (14 boys and 18 girls). This is 5.8 per cent of the total live births, as compared with 5.7 per cent in 1960.

The crude birth rate for 1961 was 13.1, and when the comparability factor (1.13) is applied, the corrected birth rate was 14.8 per 1,000 of the total population, compared with 16.7 in 1960. The birth rate for England and Wales in 1961 was 17.4.

BIRTH RATES

Year	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Wngland and Wales	15.3	15.5	15.2	15.0	15.7	16.1	16.4	16.5	17.1	17.4
Weston-super-Mare	11.5	13.4	13.0	14.5	13.3	14.0	15.5	16.7	16.7	14.8
Percentage of Illegitimate Births to Total Births in Weston-super-Mare	4.6	6.0	5.2	5.4	2.3	5.3	2.0	5.3	5.7	5.8

STILLBIRTHS

The registered number of stillbirths in 1961 was 13 (6 males and 7 females), of which none were illegitimate, thus giving a stillbirth rate of 22.9 per 1,000 total births, as compared with 20.9 in 1960.

INFANT MORTALITY

Twelve deaths occurred in children under the age of one year in 1961, compared with seven in 1960. These twelve deaths give an Infant Mortality Rate of 21.6 per 1,000 live births, the Rate for England and Wales as a whole being 21.4. Seven of the twelve deaths occurred during the first week after birth. The Perinatal Mortality (Deaths of Infants during the first week after birth plus stillbirths) was 35.2 per 1,000 live and stillbirths.



# MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no deaths due to maternal causes in 1961.

## DEATHS

After correction for transferable deaths the total assigned to the Borough by the Registrar-General was 687 (307 males and 380 females). This is 49 more than in 1960 and gives a crude death rate of 16.2 per 1,000 of population. When adjusted for age and sex distribution to make it comparable with other districts, the local death rate was 11.7 compared with 12.0 for England and Wales as a whole.

## DEATH RATES

Year	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
England and Wales	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.7	11.7	11.5	11.7	11.6	11.5	12.0
Adjusted D.R. Weston-super-Mare	11.2	9.8	10.0	10.6	11.4	10.7	12.0	11.6	11.2	11.7

## SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS, 1961.

Ages at Death in years	Males	Females	Total	Difference from 1960 figures
Under 1	7	5	12	+5
1 -	3	-	3	-1
5 -	-	3	3	+2
15 -	2	1	3	+2
25 -	5	8	13	0
45 -	58	44	102	-3
65 - 69	51	33	84	+9
Total under 70 years	126	94	220	+14
70 -	46	55	101	+4
75 -	52	69	121	+6
80 -	48	83	131	+14
85 -	25	51	76	+7
90 -	7	25	32	+8
95 -	3	2	5	-2
100 -	-	1	1	-2
Total over 70 years	181	286	467	+35
TOTALS	307	380	687	+49

CAUSES OF DEATH 1961

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Totals
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	-	2
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	1	1
3. Syphilitic diseases	2	-	2
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	9	15
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	17	4	21
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	1	15	16
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	26	26	52
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
16. Diabetes	1	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	35	70	105
18. Coronary disease, angina	77	58	135
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	6	10
20. Other heart disease	34	76	110
21. Other circulatory disease	7	12	19
22. Influenza	5	4	9
23. Pneumonia	12	16	28
24. Bronchitis	15	6	21
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	6	4	10
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	8	3	11
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	1	3	4
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	4	7
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	8	-	8
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	4	3	7
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	21	35	56
33. Motor vehicle accidents	5	8	13
34. All other accidents	2	7	9
35. Suicide	4	4	8
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
All causes - Total	307	380	687
Deaths of Infants under 1 year			
Legitimate	6	5	11
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total	7	5	12

# INFANT DEATHS 1961

	Under 1 day	1 - 2 Days	2 - 7 Days	Total under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1 - 3 months	3 - 6 months	6 - 9 months	9 - 12 months	Total under 1 year
Prematurity	2	1	-	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	3
Congenital Defects	-	1	2	3	-	2	5	1	-	-	-	6
Atelectasis	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Strangulated omental hernia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Bronchopneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	3	2	2	7	-	2	9	3	-	-	-	12

## INFANT MORTALITY RATES 1948 - 1961

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
England and Wales I.M.R.	34	32	29.8	29.6	27.6	26.8	25.4	24.9	23.8	23.0	22.5	22.0	21.7	21.4
Weston- super- Mare	15	13	17	10	14	10	10	6	12	5	12	8	7	12
I.M.R.	24.1	23.1	32.5	19.2	30.7	18.8	21.7	11.6	25.3	9.4	21.4	13.2	11.5	21.6



# INQUESTS ON RESIDENTS

<u>Causes of Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Natural Causes ... ..	2	1	3
Occupational Causes:-			
Pneumoconiosis ... ..	2	-	2
Accidents, directly or indirectly:-			
Falls in home ... ..	-	1	1
Road Accidents ... ..	5	8	13
Falls from a height ... ..	1	-	1
Coal Gas Poisoning ... ..	-	1	1
Suicide:-			
Coal Gas Poisoning ... ..	2	2	4
Fumes from a Motor Car ... ..	1	-	1
Overdose of sedative drugs ... ..	1	1	2
Hanging ... ..	-	1	1
Open Verdict:-			
Fall from a height ... ..	-	1	1
Coal Gas Poisoning ... ..	1	3	4
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TOTAL	15	19	34
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# POPULATION

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S ESTIMATE OF POPULATION IN

WESTON-SUPER-MARE 1940 - 1961

(1931	Census	31,706)	(1951	Census	40,396)
1940	...	41,810	1951	...	39,660
1941	...	44,500	1952	...	39,540
1942	...	41,250	1953	...	39,650
1943	...	38,100	1954	...	39,990
1944	...	37,930	1955	...	40,330
1945	...	37,470	1956	...	40,300
1946	...	38,890	1957	...	40,600
1947	...	39,590	1958	...	40,800
1948	...	39,710	1959	...	41,150
1949	...	39,830	1960	...	41,110
1950	...	40,210	1961	...	42,450



# GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

## I. HOSPITALS

Early in 1962, the Minister of Health issued his long-awaited Plan giving his priorities for new hospital building during the next ten years. One of the more important features of this Hospital Plan was the concept of the district general hospital which provides treatment and diagnostic facilities both for in-patients and out-patients and includes a maternity unit, a short-stay psychiatric unit, a geriatric unit and facilities for the isolation of infectious diseases. The Minister has in mind the provision of one of these district general hospitals in Weston-super-Mare, but he does not foresee the scheme for this starting until after 1970 - 71. Meanwhile he hopes to improve accommodation at the existing hospitals in the area mainly by the provision of further geriatric beds and a new obstetric unit. Those who have been concerned with the present hospital facilities in the district have been extremely disappointed with the Plan and feel that the new district general hospital should be included in the first ten years programme, but the Minister suggests that the Plan should not be regarded as fixed, but should be reviewed from year to year so that it always gives an up-to-date picture of the hospital requirements of any particular area.

## II. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

The following services in the Borough are administered by the Somerset County Council.

### INFANT WELFARE CLINICS

Bournville Public Hall	...	Monday	(weekly)	2.30 to 4.30 p.m.
3 Neva Road	...	Tuesday	(weekly)	2.30 to 4.30 p.m.
Baytree Road	...	Wednesday	(weekly)	2.30 to 4.30 p.m.
Moorland Road	...	Thursday	(1st & 3rd in the month)	2.30 to 4.30 p.m.
Milton Hill (from June 1961)		Thursday	(2nd & 4th in the month)	2.30 to 4.30 p.m.

### INFANT WELFARE CLINIC ATTENDANCES, 1961

	Bournville	Neva Road	Baytree Road	Moorland Road	Milton Hill	Total
Total attendance of children in 1961	2,284	3,860	2,730	589	225	9,688
No. of individual children who attended in 1961	358	551	415	134	62	1,520

### HEALTH VISITING SERVICE

There are five Health Visitors in the town, and the following is a summary of the Home Visiting work in 1961.

Visits to Ante-Natal cases	...	...	...	504
Visits to infants under 1 year	...	...	...	3,226
Visits to children 1 to 5 years	...	...	...	6,060
Visits to school children	...	...	...	1,128
Visits re infectious diseases	...	...	...	477
Visits to old people	...	...	...	265
Other visits	...	...	...	339
				<u>11,999</u>

## DISTRICT NURSING SERVICE

The District Nurses provide a scheme for Home Nursing and deal with about 600 cases each year. About 70% of these cases are old people.

## HOME HELP SERVICE

The work of the District Nurses is ably backed by the Home Help Service, which provides domestic help in cases of sickness and for old people.

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The North-West Somerset Divisional Executive Area covers Weston-super-Mare and Axbridge Rural District. There are almost 10,000 school children in the area in schools administered by the Education Authority, more than 6,000 of whom attend schools in Weston-super-Mare. 2,110 children had a routine medical inspection in school and in addition there were 673 special examinations and 1,768 re-examinations.

The Health Centre at 3 Neva Road houses an Infant Welfare Clinic, Minor Ailments Clinic, Speech Clinic, Eye Clinic, Ante-Natal Clinic, Child Guidance Clinic and the Family Planning Clinic, in addition to being the offices of the Home Help Service and the Mental Health Officer.

## AMBULANCE SERVICE

The County Council provides an Ambulance and Hospital Car Service through the Agency of the British Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Brigade. The group headquarters for the area is at 41 and 43 Oxford Street, Weston-super-Mare.

## III. LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES

### WELFARE OF OLD PEOPLE

As the proportion of our population grows progressively older, more and more elderly people require some form of extra service to keep them in reasonable health and comfort in their own home. These services, such as "meals on wheels", laundry service, clubs, home visiting, home nursing and domestic help are provided by a number of organisations, both statutory and voluntary, and in previous Reports, I have repeatedly stressed the importance of coordination between these organisations so as to ensure the maximum efficiency of the services which each provide. With this in mind, the Old Peoples Welfare Committee was set up some years ago to coordinate these activities, and representatives from every organisation concerned are members of the Committee. This Committee is not to be regarded as just another organisation dealing with some particular aspect of welfare for the elderly but should represent the combined strength and resources of all existing organisations. I apologise for repeating this, but the point has not yet been fully realised by many people.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - Section 47.

This section of the National Assistance Act provides for the removal to a suitable place of persons who are in need of care and attention, through age or disease, and who are living in insanitary conditions. This step is only taken in extreme cases and only after repeated persuasion has failed. During the year, no case was dealt with in this way.



## FIRST AID POST AND CENTRE FOR LOST CHILDREN

The First Aid Post was again staffed during the summer season by members of the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and the Centre for Lost Children was in the charge of a Matron appointed by the Police.

## WATER SUPPLIES

During the year the water supply of the town was satisfactory both in quality and quantity. 48 samples of untreated water and 174 samples of treated water were examined bacteriologically and 26 samples were examined chemically.

Various extensions to the water supplies were carried out during the year, mainly for new housing development.

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Work on the Main Drainage Scheme continued and by the end of the year work on the Black Rock Pumping Station, the Town Trunk sewer, Worle Phase I, the Town Development sewer and the Oldmixon Road and Totterdown Lane sewers was nearing completion while work on Worle Phase II, the Town Development Housing Site and Winterstoke Road sewer was in progress. The whole scheme should be completed by 1964.

## HOUSING

During 1961, the Local Authority erected 149 houses, 15 of which were for slum clearance and 134 for other purposes. At the end of the year 315 houses were in course of erection, the majority being for the new Town Development Scheme. Private enterprise built 153 houses in 1961 compared with 137 in 1960. In addition 49 flats or dwellings were gained from conversion of larger houses.

A further 22 Old Peoples dwellings were erected during 1961, compared with 136 in 1960. The number of applicants for old peoples dwellings at the end of the year was about 160.

With regard to the general waiting list for Council accommodation, at the end of the year the total was 901 compared with 945 at the end of 1960. Of these 901 applicants, 767 were classified as urgent bona fide applicants.

The number of post-war houses erected in the Borough from 1st April, 1945, to 31st December, 1961, is as follows:-

(a) Erected by the Local Authority	...	...	2,189
(b) Erected by Private Enterprise	...	...	1,778

The number of applications received in 1961 for "discretionary" Improvement Grants under the Housing Acts, 1949 - 1954, was 85. At the end of the year, 57 of these applications had been approved, 56 of which were in respect of owner/occupiers. The average cost per dwelling approved during the year was £602 and the total amount of grant payable by the Local Authority was £23,497.

In addition to the "discretionary" grants, 32 applications for grants to provide standard amenities were approved.

P R E V A L E N C E   A N D   C O N T R O L   O F  
I N F E C T I O U S   A N D   O T H E R   D I S E A S E S

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1961

	Total cases notified
Diphtheria ... ..	-
Scarlet Fever ... ..	6
Erysipelas ... ..	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	9
Measles ... ..	965
Whooping Cough ... ..	65
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	-
Acute Encephalitis ... ..	1
Dysentery ... ..	-
Food Poisoning ... ..	14
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ... ..	-
Pneumonia (all types) ... ..	2
Meningococcal Infection ... ..	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	-
Smallpox ... ..	-
Tuberculosis (pulmonary) ... ..	17
Tuberculosis (non-pulmonary) ... ..	-

1961 was an epidemic year for measles in the town, and 965 cases were notified. Fortunately, there were no deaths from this cause. Food poisoning was the other infection which caused concern during the year.

Many outbreaks of food poisoning are caused by infection passed on by the person preparing the food, but others are caused by food which is infected before it reaches the kitchen. During 1961 two such outbreaks occurred in the town and the circumstances in one of them were such that it warrants a fairly full description.

The "Veal" Outbreak.

This outbreak occurred at the end of April when, following a dinner attended by 48 guests, 39 of them developed symptoms of severe food poisoning 24 - 48 hours later. In addition, all the six catering staff who served the dinner were also ill. The extraordinary feature about this outbreak was that it was found to be due to a double infection, two organisms, namely *Salmonella typhimurium* and *Salmonella paratyphi B* being isolated from remnants of the veal served as the meat course of the dinner. In addition to the guests and the catering staff, both the cook and the assistant cook who prepared the dinner were also found to be infected, although they had no symptoms. The cook was found to be harbouring both organisms, while her assistant had only the *S. typhimurium*. Both said that they had eaten a small piece of the veal. The problem then arose as to whether the cook or the assistant cook was the carrier of one or both of the infections, or whether they had been infected in the same way as the guests at the dinner. It appeared most likely that they had been infected by the meat, and further investigations were made at the retail butcher's shop which supplied the veal. Here the butcher who "cut up" the actual piece of veal responsible for the outbreak, was found to be carrying the paratyphoid organism. He was immediately admitted to hospital for investigation and treatment and it was thought that he probably was the cause of the outbreak. He did not account for the typhimurium infection, however, and as this was known to occur in calves in the live state, an attempt was made to trace the calf to the farm from which it originally came.



The calf from which the veal came was therefore traced to the Weston-super-Mare Public Abattoir, where it was found to be one of sixteen calves bought at a Somerset market a few days before the outbreak. Enquiry from the Market Auctioneers showed that these sixteen calves could have come from any one of eleven different farms in Somerset. The County Veterinary Officer in conjunction with the Veterinary Investigation Centre at Langford made extensive enquiries at these farms and examined specimens from all the calves on the farms but failed to find any evidence of the typhimurium infection. At the same time, sewer swabs were inserted into 10 points in the drainage system of the Abattoir to see whether *S. typhimurium* or *S. paratyphi B* could be recovered. There was no success, however, and similar investigations at the Market from which the calves were bought were also unsuccessful.

Meanwhile the culture of the *S. typhimurium* and *S. paratyphi B* which had been recovered from the patients and the veal, were sent to the Central Public Health Laboratory in London for what is known as "phage-typing". This is a laboratory method of dividing a known organism like *S. typhimurium* into a number of sub-groups or "phage-types". Each of these types breeds true, and in a way, it is a system of "fingerprinting" the organism so that it can be identified more precisely in different outbreaks. In this way, the *S. typhimurium* was found to be type 29, which is a comparatively common type which had been found in previous outbreaks in other parts of the Country, but the paratyphoid organism was found to be a completely new type which had not been encountered before. It was provisionally named type "Somerset" by the Public Health Laboratory.

It was then found that at approximately the same time as the Weston-super-Mare outbreak a butcher in Beckenham in Kent and a boy in Rayleigh in Essex had become ill with paratyphoid B infection. In both cases the type of organism found was the new "Somerset" type. It may be significant that the butcher served at the veal counter in the shop in which he worked. Again an intensive effort was made to trace a common source of meat, but investigations at the London end could not get beyond Smithfield market. There was a possibility of a connection with some cattle dealers in Somerset, but the link with the market at which the Weston-super-Mare calves were bought could not be traced.

The discovery of the two cases in Kent and the fact that *S. typhimurium* is common in calves suggests however that both infections were of animal origin and the unfortunate butcher in Weston-super-Mare was probably a victim rather than the cause of the infection.

Thus the story ends in a somewhat unsatisfactory manner as the ultimate source of the infection was not found, but the new type of paratyphoid organism found has not been reported again since April 1961. With regard to those who were affected by the outbreak, all except one were clear of infection by the end of July, and no secondary outbreaks or cases occurred.

#### The "Boiled Tongue" Outbreak

This outbreak of food poisoning took place in June 1961 and involved 26, the pupils and staff of one of the Secondary Schools in the town. Investigation showed the cause to be an organism known as *Cl. welchii* and the vehicle of infection was probably boiled tongue which had been cooked on the previous day, allowed to cool overnight and then eaten cold. *Cl. welchii* is well known as a natural inhabitant of the bowel in many animals and the main lesson to be learnt from this outbreak is that "cold meat" if cooked and prepared some time before consumption, must be rapidly cooled and kept at a low temperature until eaten.

Normal boiling point temperature may not be sufficient to kill off all the organisms in the affected meat, and if cooling is too slow, they may multiply again, produce toxins and thus cause food poisoning. Pressure cooking is probably effective in sterilising meat, but if ordinary methods of cooking are used, the meat must be cooled as rapidly as possible, then stored in a refrigerator until eaten.

## IMMUNISATION AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE

### I. POLIOMYELITIS IMMUNISATION

Between 1947 and 1957, 39 cases of poliomyelitis with 4 deaths were notified in the town. Immunisation with Salk vaccine was started in 1957 and since then no case of poliomyelitis has occurred in the town. The following table shows the progress of the immunising campaign against poliomyelitis from the time it started in 1957, until the end of 1961:-

Year	Children Born 1943 - 61	Young Persons Born 1933 - 42	Other Groups	Total given 2 injections	Number given 3rd (reinforcing) injection
1957	64	-	-	64	-
1958	2765	26	117	2908	52
1959	4508	1837	268	6613	5495
1960	629	371	654	1654	4100
1961	695	218	543	1456	1288
Total	8661	2452	1582	12695	10935

### II. VACCINATION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS (B.C.G. VACCINATION)

In 1956, the County Council, as the Local Health Authority, introduced a scheme for the vaccination of children against tuberculosis. B.C.G. (Bacillus Calmette-Guerin) vaccine is used and the offer is extended to all thirteen-year old children. The children are first given a skin test with tuberculin (Heaf Test) and if the skin reaction is negative, they are then vaccinated. Children showing a positive Heaf Test do not require vaccination, as the positive reaction shows that they have already had some infection with tuberculosis and therefore have developed some immunity.

452 thirteen-year old children in Weston-super-Mare Divisional Area had the preliminary Heaf Test and of these 44 were found to be positive i.e. 9.7%. The remaining 408 negative reactors were vaccinated.

### III. DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

Again there were no cases of diphtheria notified in 1961 and since the end of the war only four cases have occurred in the town, the last being in 1947. The last death from diphtheria occurred in 1942. During the year, 568 children received primary immunisation against diphtheria. 503 children were immunised against whooping cough.



#### IV. VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

230 primary vaccinations and 5 re-vaccinations against smallpox were carried out by private general practitioners in the Borough during 1961. The following table, giving the age distribution of persons vaccinated shows that only 174 children under the age of 1 year received primary vaccination. (Number of live births in 1961 = 555)

Persons Vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) in 1961.

Age Groups	Under 1		1		2 - 4		5 - 14		15 & over		Total	
	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R	P	R
Weston-super-Mare	174	1	16	-	18	-	19	2	3	2	230	5
Somerset County	3660	12	304	1	253	26	252	73	61	70	4530	182

P = Primary Vaccination  
R = Re-vaccination

R E P O R T  
O F  
C H I E F P U B L I C H E A L T H I N S P E C T O R

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of  
the Borough of Weston-super-Mare.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the sanitary administration of the Borough of Weston-super-Mare for the year 1961.

The repair of defects in unfit houses continued satisfactorily throughout the year. It is evident that the "slums" the older generation knew are fast disappearing. There never was a time when new building was more important. We should learn from the lessons of the past that "slums" must be prevented. One way to prevent them is to build soundly. Another way is to build for the owner occupier and local authorities should provide better facilities for house purchase. The young people of today must be informed of the disadvantages of paying rent for 40 - 50 years.

There must of course be a percentage of rented houses to allow for mobility of population, but Councils should build, recognising in the field of housing that the individual is as important as the community.

The throughput at the Abattoir increased considerably over the previous year with a corresponding increase in revenue. New "strip" lighting in the cattle slaughterhall and piggery, together with major repairs and improvements to the Abattoir buildings and yard were carried out during the year. All animals slaughtered at the Abattoir were subject to a high standard of post mortem inspection as to their fitness for human consumption.

Routine inspection of catering establishments, food shops and food preparing premises continued systematically throughout the year. Many structural improvements were carried out as a result of these inspections. It is evident that much more can be achieved in the way of food hygiene by talking to employees during visits, than by a series of lectures.

I feel that still too many housewives consider the proximity of a shop, or a minor reduction in price rather than the standard of cleanliness. This makes an all out effort for clean food more difficult. However, the sale of food today depends on well designed premises and a trained staff. Such a policy pays and the days of the dingy corner shop are numbered. The customer could by complaint, in cases of unhygienic practices, do much to help the public health inspector.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Public Health Committee for the support given to me during the year, and recording my appreciation of the help and co-operation received from the staff of all departments.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G.P. LAWRENCE,

Chief Public Health Inspector.



## HOUSING

The repair of unfit houses continued satisfactorily throughout the year. In many cases owners co-operated in raising the standard of fitness of their properties, but it is noticeable in recent years that informal action is not enough, and the local authority has to resort more often to statutory action to ensure that houses are kept in good repair.

The present housing fitness standard however, is no better than the standard recommended nearly 40 years ago, and present legislation does no more than ensure that a house is maintained at the standard at which it was constructed. A problem which is steadily growing more serious is the overcrowding of houses in multiple occupation, but it is hoped that the new Housing Act, which came into force this year, will enable local authorities to deal with this problem more effectively.

In recent years there has been a substantial increase in owner occupation and a big reduction in the numbers of private landlords. In the near future most local authorities will complete their slum clearance programme, enabling them to turn their attention to modernisation, and a new standard of fitness should be that applicable to discretionary improvement grants. To introduce this immediately, would create serious problems by making large numbers of houses unfit, but certain areas could be progressively designated 'improvement areas' and the owners given a period in which to bring their houses up to the required standard.

### Housing Act, 1957

Houses included in Clearance area for which Orders are still to be made	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of houses demolished under Section 42 (Clearance Areas)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of houses demolished or closed under Section 17 (individual unfits)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of houses declared unfit under Section 9	...	...	...	...	9
Number of houses made fit during year	...	...	...	...	40

### Improvement Grants

Applications received	...	...	...	...	...	85
Applications approved	...	...	...	...	...	57
No. of houses where Standard Amenities have been provided	...	...	...	...	...	33

### Rent Act, 1957 - Certificates of Disrepair

Number of applications received	...	...	...	...	-
Number of Certificates issued	...	...	...	...	1

### Housing Inspections

Housing Act, 1957	...	...	...	...	...	140
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	299
Public Health Act, 1936	...	...	...	...	...	105
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	126
Council House applications	...	...	...	...	...	57
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	13
Vermin	...	...	...	...	...	12
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	154

### Work Done

Houses externally repaired	...	...	...	...	21
Houses internally repaired	...	...	...	...	19
Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	13
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	6
Repairs carried out under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	27
Repairs carried out under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	9

### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The number of caravan sites in the Borough licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act is:-

Holiday sites - 6 (No. of caravans = 259)  
Residential sites - 1 (No. of caravans = 35)  
Part Holiday and Part Residential sites - 1  
(No. of caravans = 110, including 6 residential)

Licensing Authorities have had their problems considerably reduced since the coming into force of the above Act. Improved sanitary facilities and additional amenities such as laundries, showers or baths, additional water points, hard standings, roads and footpaths, as required by the Councils conditions for the licensing of holiday and residential sites, are now helping considerably to raise the standards of caravan sites. The days of the converted van and bus bodies for holiday accommodation are over and each year larger and more attractive caravans are replacing those that have been on the sites for a number of years.

A great number of people now live in caravans from choice. For young married couples it was the only solution to their housing problem. Retired couples were often glad to have less housework and lower expenses in their old age.

In my opinion however, the caravan dwellings were only a half way stage to the permanent home. Most of the occupants would move into permanent homes as soon as the opportunity arose.

Caravans "en masse" are not objects of beauty, although a great deal can be done by careful landscaping, siting and tree planting. Unfortunately the higher standards being demanded of commercial sites, together with the closure of some of these sites are likely to make things more difficult for touring caravanners at a time when touring with caravans is becoming increasingly popular.

### DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

The Sparkhall Disinfector was operated from time to time during the year for the disinfection of bedding and clothing.

The number of rooms disinfected during the year was 33.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Smoke observations of factory and hotel chimneys in the Borough were continued throughout the year. No serious emissions of dark smoke were recorded, and no complaints of smoke nuisances were received.

### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Good results were again obtained through the extensive use of the anti-coagulant poison "Warfarin". Only slight infestation of the sewers was revealed after the two annual maintenance treatments had been carried out.

Rodent infestation of the refuse tip has now virtually ceased due to the effectiveness of "controlled tipping".



	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses (incl. Council Houses)	All other (incl. Business Premises)	Totals of Cols 1, 2 & 3	Agricul- ture
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	34	13,512	720	14,266	16
2. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	9	182	41	237	-
3. Number of such properties found to be infested by:					
Common rat      Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	9	171	38	218	-
House mouse    Major	-	-	-	-	-
Minor	-	7	3	10	-
4. Total inspections carried out - including re-inspections	35	479	110	624	-
5. Number of <u>infested</u> properties (in Sections 2, 3, & 4) treated by the Local Authority	9	178	41	228	-
6. Total treatments carried out - including re-treatments	49	269	67	385	-

#### FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. INSPECTION FOR the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupier Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	33	24	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1, in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	161	183	10	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Totals	194	207	10	-

2. CASES in which defects were found.

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which pro-secutions were instituted
	Found Remedied		Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	1	-	1	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilations (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	-	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	-	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	4	3	-	3	-
Totals	10	4	-	7	-

3. OUTWORK - Section 110 and 111 of the Factories Act, 1937.

Nature of Work	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(1)	Section III Notices Served
Wearing apparel (making, etc. Cleaning and Washing)	6	-

SHOPS

622 inspections were made during the year under the provisions of the Shops Acts, 1934 - 1950, dealing with the health and comfort of shop workers, general closing hours and hours of employment.

It is the considered opinion of most officers who have to operate the Shops Act that it is now virtually out of date with reality. It is so confused with exemptions that it is difficult to understand why many of the provisions have not been removed or amended. The introduction of new legislation is now long overdue.

Whilst mobile traders obviously provide a valuable service, particularly in rural areas, there seems little reason for their being exempt from so many of the provisions which govern the activities of the traders occupying shop premises.



MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926.

This Act requires an indication of origin to be given in the case of certain imported goods. Numerous inspections of various imported foods were made for this purpose, but no contraventions of the Act were recorded.

ICE CREAM

192 premises are registered for the preparation, storage and sale of ice cream, of which 2 are producers.

140 samples of ice cream were taken during the year, and a satisfactory standard was maintained.

We are now becoming familiar with the appearance of completely equipped ice cream vans operating under such names as Mr. Softee and Mr. Whippy. These are virtually ice cream factories on wheels. They are equipped with excellent refrigerated storage for premixed sterile ice cream and produce the finished product as the customer waits, from new style soft ice cream freezers. These vehicles should be registered in the same manner as factory premises and the Food and Drugs Act should be amended to permit such registration.

	Total Samples	Cold Mix				Hot Mix			
		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
January	8	2	-	-	-	6	-	-	-
February	7	2	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
March	8	1	-	1	-	6	-	-	-
April	8	-	-	-	-	6	1	1	-
May	10	-	-	-	-	3	5	1	1
June	18	-	-	-	-	8	7	2	1
July	12	-	-	-	-	2	6	4	-
August	29	-	-	-	-	23	3	3	-
September	14	-	-	-	-	11	3	-	-
October	10	-	-	-	-	9	1	-	-
November	8	-	-	-	-	8	-	-	-
December	8	-	-	-	-	6	-	1	1
Totals	140	5	-	1	-	93	26	12	3
Percentages		3.6	-	0.7	-	66.4	18.6	8.6	2.1

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS AND FOOD HYGIENE

Catering and other food preparing premises received regular routine visits by the public health inspectors during the year. The smaller cafes are, of all the food preparing premises, those which give most cause for concern. The often too large dining rooms, well equipped and furnished, are served by kitchens inadequate in size, with the inevitable result that, especially at peak holiday periods, food handling and the standard of hygiene deteriorate. How much easier our task would be if by statute all kitchens of food establishments were required to be so placed and so exposed as to be easily viewed by those patronising the premises.

The standard of food handling still leaves much to be desired and this is apparent even in those premises where every facility is provided by the employers for maintaining a high standard of hygiene.

The handling of unwrapped food inside shops could well be improved. The number of frozen food cabinets have increased in recent years. Unfortunately, a factor not generally appreciated by the customers, is that when food is removed from its artificial environment in the refrigerator rapid deterioration may follow.

### FOOD PREMISES

Number of Food Premises in Area, (excluding registered dairy premises and ice cream premises).

Bakers	...	...	...	22
Butchers	...	...	...	47
Fishmongers	...	...	...	14
Grocers	...	...	...	98
Greengrocers	...	...	...	45
Restaurants, cafes, snack bars, etc.	...	...	...	115
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	41
Hotels, Private Hotels and Boarding Houses	...	...	...	400

Inspections of Food Premises:

Abattoir	...	...	...	591
Bakehouses	...	...	...	71
Butchers Shops	...	...	...	241
Catering Establishments	...	...	...	497
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	207
Fishmongers	...	...	...	71
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	32
Greengrocers	...	...	...	86
Grocers	...	...	...	260
Ice Cream Shops and Premises	...	...	...	132
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	95
Foods for condemnation	...	...	...	128
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	168
Other Food Premises	...	...	...	127

Samples Taken:

Bottle rinses	...	...	...	78
Drinking Water	...	...	...	24
Food	...	...	...	169
Ice Cream	...	...	...	140
Milk	...	...	...	281
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials	...	...	...	3
Swimming Bath Water	...	...	...	80

Unsound Food Condemned in the Town:

Meat	...	...	127 lbs.	Cheese	...	...	27 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> lbs.
Poultry	...	...	514 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> lbs.	Fruit	...	...	800 "
Sausages	...	...	81 "	Butter	...	...	32 "
Bacon	...	...	28 "	Fats	...	...	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> "
Fish	...	...	210 "	Flour	...	...	48 "
Coconut Mallows	...	...	45 "	Sugar	...	...	2 "
Salt	...	...	4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> "	Biscuits	...	...	80 "



Canned Goods:-

Meat ... ..	202 cans	Milk ... ..	42 cans
Fruit ... ..	720 "	Jams and Marmalades	5 "
Vegetables ... ..	103 "	Soups ... ..	10 "
Fish ... ..	157 "	Rice ... ..	11 "
Poultry ... ..	2 "	Cream ... ..	13 "
Coffee ... ..	1 "	Sweet Corn ... ..	2 "
Biscuits ... ..	199 pkts	Meat ... ..	2 jars
Carraway Seed	1 "	Fish ... ..	2 "
Frozen Foods	1240 "	Jams ... ..	100 "
Meat Pies ... ..	2	Vegetables ... ..	17 boxes

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

The number of samples submitted for analysis for the year 1961 was 169.

No. of Samples	Description of samples	Result of Analysis	No. of Samples	Description of samples	Result of Analysis
2	C.I.Past.Milk	Genuine	2	Lemon Curd	Genuine
2	Sterilised Milk	"	1	Jellied Eels	"
5	T.T. Past.Milk	"	1	Dripping	"
10	T.T. Milks	"	1	Sauce Tartar	"
2	T.T. Milks	Adult.	1	Choc. Sponge Mix	"
2	C.I.(Past) T.T. Milk	Genuine	1	Steam Pudding Mix	"
2	Past. Milk	"	2	Corned Beef	"
1	Cut Mixed Peel	"	1	Baking Powder	"
1	Icing Sugar	"	1	Red Currant Jelly	"
1	Cocktail Cherries	"	1	Shredded Suet	"
1	Ground Almonds	"	2	Pork Sausages	"
1	Mixed Fruit	"	1	Pork Sausage	Incorrect Label
1	Marzipan	"	2	Pork Sausages	Adult.
2	White Pepper	"	1	Curry Powder	Genuine
1	Bicarbonate of Soda	"	1	Wine Vinegar	"
1	Instant Potato	"	1	Salad Cream	"
1	Demerara Sugar	"	1	Beef Curry	"
5	Butter	"	1	Tincture of Iodine	"
1	Minced Turkey in Jelly	"	1	Saccharin Tablets	"
1	Minced Steak	Incorrect Label	1	Camphorated Oil	"
1	Cocktail Savoury	Genuine	1	Seidlitz Powder	"
1	Gelatine	"	1	Tartaric Acid	"
1	Cheese Whiz	"	1	Ground Rice	"
3	Noodle Soups	"	1	Beef Sausage	"
1	Pork Pie	"	1	Tea Cakes Mix	"
1	Olive Oil	"	1	Jam Sandwich Mix	"
1	Sweet & Sour Chicken	"	1	Cube with Meat Extract	"
1	Spaghetti Bolognese	"	1	Tango	"
1	Pure Dairy Cream	"	1	Coconut Flavour	"
1	Sardines in Olive Oil	"	1	Royal Chiffon	"
2	Minced Beef with onion and gravy	"	1	Ready Mix Ice Cream	"
2	Salmon	"	1	Glaze Pineapple	"
1	Beans & Pork Sausages in Tomato Sauce	"	1	Buitoni	"
1	Cheese Cake Mixture	"	1	Cream Style Sweet Corn	"
1	Madras Curry Powder	"	1	Chinese Mixed Pickles	"
1	Chicken Paste	"	1	Dressed Crab	"
2	Pork Luncheon Meat	"	1	Yohart	"
1	Suet Dumpling Mix	"	1	Horseradish Relish	"
			1	Savoury fingers with fresh dairy cream	"
			1	Linotus Codeine	"
			1	Essence of Rennett	"



No. of Samples	Description of samples	Result of Analysis	No. of Samples	Description of samples	Result of Analysis
1	Yankees	Genuine	1	Quinine Sulphate	
2	Instant Coffee	"		Tablets	Genuine
2	Vegetable Oil	"	1	Compound Codeine	
1	Kandy	"		Tablets	"
1	Marmalade	"	1	Salt Cubes	"
1	Draught Vinegar	"	1	Iodised Table Salt	"
1	Cornflour	"	1	Parmasugo	"
1	Sago	"	1	Clotted Cream	"
1	Garden Mint	"	1	Potato Flakes	"
1	Jiffi-Jelli	"	1	Smoked Saith in oil	"
1	Cheese Food	Unsatis.	1	Fine Semolina	"
1	Almond Oil	Genuine	1	Rice	"
2	Tomato Ketchup	"	1	Instant Pure Garlic	
1	Whole Bay Leaves	"		Powder	"
2	Chopped Ham	"	1	Tonic Yeast	"
1	Whole Beetroot	"	1	Glycerine of Boraci	"
1	Shortie Biscuit	"	1	Cod Liver Oil	"
1	Sausage Rolls	"	1	Glycerine of Thymol	"
1	Mincemeat	"	1	Teething Jelly	"
1	Young Stem Ginger	"	1	Ginger Cordial	"
	in Syrup	"	1	Minced Steak with	
1	Slippery Elm Food	"		Spaghetti	"
1	Motherhood Tea	"	1	Herbelix Specific	"
1	Light Meat Tuna	"	1	Crab	"
	Flakes	"	1	Cod Roe	"
1	Compound Fat	"	1	Creamed Mushroom	"
1	Lamb Tongues	"	1	Fruit Salad	Incor.Label

The sampling of food and drugs is being extended in an ever widening sphere. Today adulteration is seldom deliberate. New packaged foods and drugs are appearing on the market with new ingredients and unfamiliar additives. Misdescription on labels and exaggerated claims on the health giving properties of certain foods requires special attention. Duplication of samples by numerous food and drugs authorities is often criticised and there is some justification for this. A solution to this problem should be found.

#### DAIRIES AND MILK SHOPS

Routine sampling of all designated milks continued throughout the year. Samples were taken from school canteens, milk vehicles, milk vending machines and dairies.

One of the most difficult problems that the dairyman has to contend with these days is the dirty milk bottle. It is extremely difficult to detect bottles which have contained substances like paraffin and disinfectant. The number of prosecutions of milk containing foreign bodies appears to be on the increase.

No. of Registered Distributors = 57  
No. of Registered Dairy Premises  
(other than Dairy Farms) = 19

281 samples of designated milk were examined and the results were as follows:-

Designation	Samples Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested	25	23	2
Pasteurised	254	248	6
Sterilised	2	2	-

### DRINKING WATER

174 samples of water for bacteriological analysis were submitted with satisfactory results.

### SWIMMING BATH WATER

80 samples of swimming bath water from the Open Air Swimming Pool and Knightstone Baths were submitted for bacteriological analysis and were found to be satisfactory.

The estimated average number of bathers daily during the season were as follows:-

Open Air Swimming Pool	...	1,900
Knightstone Baths	...	410

Name of Bath	Water			Treatment		
	Main	Sea	Other	Recirculation	Filtration	Chlorination Automatic Hand
The Pool		Sea		Yes	Pressure	Yes
Knightstone Bath		Sea		Yes	Pressure	Yes

### OFFENSIVE TRADES

The only offensive trade operating in the Borough is that of gut scraping at the Public Abattoir.

### DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957

The number of licensed collectors in the Borough is now 23.

### POULTRY PACKING ESTABLISHMENT

Number of Poultry Packing Establishments in District = 1

Approximate weekly kill = 10,000 to 15,000

### SUMMARY OF VISITS BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Total number of inspections and visits	...	...	...	8,625
Nuisances or complaints	...	...	...	312
Cesspools	...	...	...	87
Cinemas and Public Buildings	...	...	...	1
<u>Drainage:</u>				
Inspections	...	...	...	221
Tests	...	...	...	28
Dustbins	...	...	...	97
<u>Factories:</u>				
Power	...	...	...	183
Non-Power	...	...	...	24
Outworkers	...	...	...	6
Workplaces	...	...	...	46
Infectious Disease visits	...	...	...	3
Visits re Food Poisoning	...	...	...	59
Interviews with Owners, etc.	...	...	...	321



Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	801
Offensive accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	84
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	176
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Public and Private Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	301
Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Shop Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	622
Smoke Abatement	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	111
Tents, vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	256
Wasp Nests	...	...	...	...	...	...	74

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES, DISINFECTIONS, ETC.

				<u>Rooms</u>	<u>Articles</u>
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	4	-
Cancer	...	...	...	2	6
Meningitis	...	...	...	1	12
German Measles	...	...	...	3	-
N.N.	...	...	...	6	159
Vermin	...	...	...	17	-
				<u>33</u>	<u>177</u>

Articles destroyed = 11

#### INSPECTION OF MEAT

The last two decades have seen radical changes in the meat industry. Developments in livestock production and the meat processing trade continue to present health authorities with new problems. The limitation of slaughterhouses would enable more hygienic control and more adequate facilities for inspection. Slaughterhouses are now being improved and reconstructed with better cold storage facilities.

There has been a considerable decline in the incidence of tuberculosis in cattle due to the tuberculosis eradication scheme, and this means that more emphasis is now being placed on those conditions which present less obvious evidence to the inspector. This will entail greater use of the laboratory services. Parasitic diseases such as liver fluke, cysts and conditions of the liver previously of little comparable significance were now recognised as an important economic loss to the meat industry.

Codes of Practice on Poultry Dressing and Packing were issued during the year, which outlines procedure for both large and small premises. The Codes give an excellent example of a modern type of layout which ensures separation of dirty and clean processes. There should be zoning for various processes, preferably by structural partitions to minimise the risk of contamination. In particular the zone for killing should be completely separated from the evisceration zone.

The actual construction of the premises should follow the well established pattern for all food preparing premises. The disposal of large quantities of feathers and offal however, still presents a difficult problem.

			Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Condemned Meat	...	...	53	15	0	10
Non-edible offals etc.	...	...	387	19	2	21
Total	...	...	<u>441</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>



# Animals Killed at the Public Abattoir

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Pigs	19,532	18,640	18,981	15,204	20,535	16,990	15,693	18,126
Sheep	25,620	18,110	25,351	25,793	30,371	47,194	44,095	48,402
Calves	4,119	2,970	3,716	2,708	1,664	1,437	1,159	947
Beasts	8,897	6,996	9,100	8,714	12,077	8,036	7,749	11,227

Difference from the year 1960

Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
+3,478	-212	+4,307	+2,433

being an increase of 10,006 animals over 1960.

The income from slaughtering charges, tolls, and rentals was as follows:-

								£.	s.	d.
1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,592	16	10
1954	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,605	19	5
1955	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,741	17	6
1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9,162	2	10
1957	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,706	17	10
1958	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,541	15	6
1959	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,806	16	7
1960	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,956	5	1
1961, including rentals and tolls etc. as below	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,890	17	6
<u>Abattoir</u>	Rentals	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,203	4	0
	Car Washing Fees	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
	Sale of manure to Parks Committee etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	0	0
and										
<u>Cattle Market</u>	Tolls	...	...	...	...	...	...	251	2	0

## DISEASED MEAT AND ORGANS

The total weight of diseased, unsound or injured meat and organs condemned was:-

<u>Tuberculous Meats:</u>	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Beef and organs including 4 carcasses, 2 quarters	1	16	2	16				
Pigs and organs including carcasses		6	2	2				
Veal and organs, including carcase and all offal	-	-	-	-	2	3	0	18

## Non-Tuberculous Meat:

Beef and organs including 20 carcasses and 76 quarters	36	19	0	6				
Pigs and organs, including 49 carcasses and 42 quarters	8	0	3	9				
Sheep and organs including 154 carcasses and 30 quarters	6	6	1	4				
Calves and organs including 13 carcasses and offal		5	3	1	51	11	3	20
Total weight of all condemned meat					53	15	0	10

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN  
PART DURING 1961

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	7116	4011	947	48402	18126
Number Inspected	7116	4011	947	48402	18126
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	8	12	13	154	49
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1754	2461	11	2896	4661
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	24.76%	61.65%	2.5%	6.3%	25.9%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	2	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	59	64	-	-	96
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	.85%	1.6%	-	-	.5%
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	172	20	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	172	20	-	-	-
Weight of meat condemned (in lbs.) for:					
(a) Tuberculosis	1644	2460	-	-	730
(b) Cysticercosis	2407	857	-	-	-
(c) Other	54655	24855	645	14144	17283
Total (in lbs.) condemned	58706	28172	645	14144	18013







# METEOROLOGICAL REPORT

1961

Sunshine on the whole during 1961 was about or slightly above the 10-year (1951-60) average, and the total for the year of 1646.0 hours showed an increase of 21.8 hours over the average. March (144.7 hours - 10-year average 119.5 hours), May (237.0 hours - 10-year average 208.1 hours), June (280.3 hours - 10-year average 218.2 hours), and December 64.1 hours - 10-year average 45.6 hours) were the sunniest months, while April (106.4 hours - 10-year average 182.3 hours) had the lowest since 1920 (85.1 hours).

The total Rainfall (27.85 ins.) for the year was the lowest since 1956 (24.25 ins.), and well below the 10-year average of 32.69 ins. The wettest months were January (3.75 ins.), February (2.73 ins.), April (3.41 ins.), and December (4.71 ins.), with totals well above the 10-year average of 2.74 ins., 1.99 ins., 1.75 ins., and 3.25 ins., respectively, although February had a period of 12 consecutive days and December, 14 consecutive days, when no measureable rain was recorded. March had the lowest rainfall since 1929 (.10 ins.) - in fact 1929 and 1961 are the only two years since records were started in 1883 when rainfall in March has been below .25 ins., the 10-year average for the month being 2.03 ins. May (1.18 ins.) was also a comparatively dry month (10-year average 2.15 ins.) with a period of 20 consecutive days without measureable rain.

Maximum temperatures were slightly higher during the year, as compared with 1960. June, August and September recorded maximums of over 80°, while 70° and over was recorded on 4 days during June, 14 days in July, 9 days in August, and 7 days in September, as compared with the average for the past 5 years of 8.8 days in June, 9.6 days in July, 7.2 days in August, and 6.2 days in September. The highest maximum for the year (85°) was recorded in August, the highest for this month since 1955 (88°).

The minimum temperature of 33° in October was the lowest for that month since 1955 (29°), while December's minimum of 19° was the lowest for the month for the period 1911 - 1960, and only on 8 occasions during this period has a minimum of 23° or under occurred. There is no record during the period 1911 - 1960 of February recording such a "high" lowest minimum temperature as 38°, the previous highest being 34° in 1923 and 1926, while the 10-year average is 24.5°.

It would appear that the number of days when ground frost occurred had increased during 1961, as compared with the previous 5 years, but this is due to the fact that the Meteorological Office decided, as from January 1st, 1961, to change the use of the term "ground frost". For official purposes, it will be known as "number of days with grass minimum temperature 32°F (0.0°C) or below". Previously ground frost was considered to have occurred when the temperature just above ground covered with short grass fell to 30°F or below. 21° ground frost was recorded on December 26th, the highest for the period 1911 - 1960, the previous highest being 15° in 1913, 1917 and 1935.

The record of snow or sleet having fallen on 3 days in December, included 2 days on which sleet showers occurred, and 1 night when some snow fell together with a further fall the following morning, making a total of about one inch on the ground.

MONTHLY RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, 1961

	TEMPERATURES					RAINFALL			SUNSHINE			Number of Days											SEA TEMPERATURES°
	Means		Range	Mean	High- est Max.	Low- est Min.	Total inches	+9 a.m. to 6 p.m.	No. Days or over	Total hours	Daily Aver- age hours	Snow or sleet	Snow lying	Hail	Thunder heard	Fog	Air Frost	Ground Frost	Gale				
	Max.	Min.																					
January	45.7	39.8	5.9	42.7	52	29	3.75	1.58	2.17	16	41.7	1.35	-	-	3	2	-	6	21	3	43.2		
February	50.5	42.4	8.1	46.5	57	38	2.73	.63	2.10	12	67.5	2.41	-	-	2	-	2	-	4	2	51.7		
March	54.1	40.4	13.7	47.3	66	29	.19	.04	.15	1	144.7	4.67	-	-	-	-	4	1	14	-	52.3		
April	56.9	45.6	11.3	51.3	64	39	3.41	1.35	2.06	16	106.4	3.55	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	54.4		
May	61.2	46.3	14.9	53.7	73	36	1.18	.53	.65	7	237.0	7.65	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	57.5		
June	66.7	52.5	14.2	59.6	81	47	.89	.52	.37	3	280.3	9.34	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	64.7		
July	68.4	55.1	13.3	61.7	73	47	1.87	.71	1.16	8	204.6	6.60	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	67.4		
August	68.6	56.0	12.6	62.3	85	51	2.30	.49	1.81	11	187.7	6.06	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	63.3		
September	68.0	54.5	13.5	61.3	83	45	2.34	.57	1.77	9	142.0	4.73	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	66.5		
October	59.6	46.8	12.8	53.2	69	33	2.70	.93	1.77	16	110.5	3.56	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	58.0		
November	49.8	40.3	9.5	45.1	60	27	1.78	.50	1.28	12	59.5	1.98	-	-	-	-	2	3	11	1	51.7		
December	42.5	33.2	9.3	37.9	58	19	4.71	1.52	3.19	15	64.1	2.07	3	1	1	-	6	15	19	2	44.7		
Means & Totals	57.7	46.1	11.6	51.9	68.4	36.7	27.85	9.37	18.45	126	1646.0	4.50	13	1	7	6	18	25	76	8	56.3		

+ 10 a.m. Summer Time  
29 days only

From January 1st 1961, this column will in official publications read  
"Grass minimum temperature 32°F or below". Previously Ground Frost  
considered to have occurred at 30°F or below.







